

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~III (A). BILLS TO ESTABLISH A JOINT COMMITTEE ON CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE  
INTRODUCED INTO THE 83RD CONGRESS~~

Several bills were introduced into the 83rd Congress to establish a Joint Committee with supervision of the Central Intelligence Agency or the intelligence function generally.

(1) S. Con. Res. 42 (introduced by Senator Mansfield) and H. Con. Res. 167 (introduced by Congressman Patterson) established a Joint Committee on Central Intelligence to be composed of nine members each from the Senate and the House. S. Con. Res. 69 (introduced by Senator Mansfield with twenty-four co-sponsors) and H. Con. Res. 216 and 217 (introduced by Congressmen Richards and Brownson respectively) were identical, except the membership was to be composed of five members from each House. These bills provided that the Joint Committee study the activities of CIA and problems relating to the gathering of intelligence relating to the national security and of its coordination and utilization by the various agencies of the Government. CIA shall keep the Joint Committee fully and currently informed with respect to its activities. All legislation and other matters relating primarily to CIA shall be referred to the Joint Committee.

The Director of Central Intelligence has held several extremely cordial conversations with Senator Mansfield regarding his legislation, which the Senator introduced with a firm conviction that it would be most helpful to CIA. Following the introduction of S. Con. Res. 42, which called for a Joint Committee of eighteen members, Senator Mansfield came to the conclusion that such a Committee would be too large in view of the extreme sensitivity of the subject matter. As a result, he introduced S. Con. Res. 69, which called for a ten member Joint Committee. Subsequent conversations with Senator Mansfield indicate that at present he would tend to prefer a small Joint Committee appointed by the Vice-President and the Speaker, or selected from the membership of the Armed Services and Appropriations Committees.

(2) H. Con. Res. 168 and 169 (introduced by Congressmen Kelley and Zablocki respectively) established a Joint Committee on Intelligence Matters to be composed of nine members each from the Senate and the House. These resolutions were similar to those on the Central Intelligence Agency alone, except that they were broadened to include "related intelligence services" as well.

(3) H. J. Res. 473 (introduced by Congressman McCarthy) was even broader and established a Joint Committee on Information, Intelligence, and Security.

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(b) H. R. 3460 (introduced by Congressman Frelinghuysen) established a Commission on United States Foreign Intelligence Activities, composed of five members to be appointed by the President and two each from the Senate and the House. The Commission was to make a full and complete investigation and study of the foreign intelligence activities of the United States and of the security of our intelligence agencies from penetration by subversion. It was also to study the questions of overlapping and duplication, staffing, and efficiency.

None of these proposals were reported out of Committee.